

THON

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bad times. "There are kids that don't survive," Crovella said with a clear tone of sadness in her voice. "It can be a tough job. It's not always the best of news."

"But you reconcile things and go on working because there are other children."

And with that, the glow-in-the-dark stars begin to radiate off the pink and yellow doorways.

Some of Crovella's fondest memories of the past four years are of Penn State's dance marathon. Since her position is funded by Four Diamonds, she likes to help with THON. "I try to give back as much as I can because I am funded by them," she said. Despite getting eight hours of sleep the whole weekend, she makes a point of cheering the dancers during the early morning hours. She added, "I learned to take both Friday and Monday off."

The time is well spent. This year's THON continued to solidify its reputation as the largest student run



The THON tools of the trade - a comfortable pair of shoes.

philanthropy in the nation raising \$2,001,831.51. Penn State Harrisburg dancers Stacie Wentzel and Tami Pardue sent \$4,977 toward that total and survived 48-hours on their feet.

Of the 1997 Four Diamonds budget, THON raised 73 percent, all of it helping support the children. It doesn't hurt the care providers either.

"It's like a shot in the arm," Crovella said. "THON charges you for the rest of the year. Once you go, you're hooked."

Everybody take out your syllabus and open it up to page 37

Education department going interdisciplinary

by Mary Long

How would you like to be handed a 43-page syllabus in the first semester of your senior year? Yipes! Elementary education majors face exactly that as a result of the interdisciplinary focus on their education courses.

Ah, but here's the truth. The syllabus represents five of the courses elementary education majors are taking this semester, said Susan Hillman. Those courses will then include, "common goals and assignments across the courses, as well as unique components for each course," she explained.

Hillman, assistant professor of mathematics education, continued: "We don't experience life in separate categories of events where this event deals with math, this one deals with reading, this one deals with music and so forth. Rather,

we experience life from a more holistic perspective where we integrate knowledge from different disciplines."

But, why do future teachers have to actually experience interdisciplinary methods first hand, and why the interdisciplinary focus in the first place?

Future teachers need to be trained in interdisciplinary methods in order for the elementary student to learn in this way. This is what is happening in the methods courses. Hillman said, "Before we developed this common syllabus and common approach to interdisciplinary instruction, we talked about making connections between our courses, but each of us still had our own separate courses." With a combined syllabus, the methods courses take on a unified theme, she explained.

Another way education professors reinforce this unified theme is by providing simulations of inter-

disciplinary instruction. By doing so they can freeze frame critical moments when a particular point needs to be evaluated.

Such modeling is done during "assemblies" that are held several times during the semester where elementary preservice teachers meet together at a common time and place.

There, the professors model collaboration by actually working together to teach a lesson. In this way, Hillman said, she and her colleagues are implementing the vision statement developed by the education faculty.

The statement sums up the focus of the program explaining the faculty is, "dedicated to providing interdisciplinary instruction and experiences which extend content knowledge, and pedagogical competencies."

So, maybe a 43-page syllabus isn't so bad. After all, one semester, one syllabus.

The Campus Calendar for Penn State Harrisburg: for weeks of March 15 thru April 11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 15 	Classes Resume Today 16 Now through Apr 3 Linda Rugel's "Faces, Phases, Form" Gallery Lounge	SGA meetings 17 <u>Every Tuesday</u> 12:30 pm Black Student Union Meetings <u>Every Tuesday</u> 12:30 - 1:30 pm Comedian Leighann Lord 9pm, Dining Commons, followed by a DJ	Use of Professional Solicitors in Charitable Organizations: Who Gets the Money? 18 12-1pm, Downtown Center "Multiculturalism and Ethnic Conflict: The Search for Peace" panel discussion, 12-1:30pm, PSH Eastgate Center	Faculty and Staff Recognition Program, 12:30pm in the Student Center, CUB 19	Spring Begins 20 Current Events in Brain Research: From Genes to Alzheimer's Disease 12-1pm, Downtown Center	21
22	TEAM Organizational Mtg. 7 pm L. G. I. room Middletown High School 23 Nancy Eshelman, "Women in Journalism" at 3:30pm and "The Life and Time of Rosie The Riveter" at 6pm Gallery Lounge	Flora Singer, Belgian Holocaust survivor speaks at 6pm in the Gallery Lounge 24	Women's Legislative Group Conference at Hbg Marriott 25 Lion Ambassadors play bingo at nursing home "Sex, Lies, Tapes and E-Mail: When is the Presidency in Crisis?" panel discussion, noon, Downtown Center	Linda Rugel, art reception and gallery talk, 6-8:30pm, Gallery Lounge "Lunch with and International Flavor" featuring the country Sudan, 12-1pm, Gallery Lounge 9th Annual High Achievers Academic Bowl, 6-9pm, CUB	27	TEAM Open Gym Night 12 - 3 pm Middletown High School 28
29	Entry Deadline for Intramural 1-pitch coed softball, Rm 122, CUB 30	A conversation with Loida Esbri, PA Commission on Women, brown bag lunch, 12:30pm, place TBA Lisl Bogart, Czech survivor of Terezin, 6pm, Gallery Lounge	April 1 XGI's Blood Drive 11 am - 3 pm Gallery Lounge April Fools Day	2	RSC, Spring Semi-formal, time & place TBA 3	4
5 Student Awards	6	Computer Conferencing and the Creative Process 12-1pm PSH Eastgate Center 7	Dr. Kay Downs, "One Man Away From Welfare: What Next?" 10am, Gallery Lounge 8	9	Good Friday 10	11